

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 47 and 48 have been cancelled.

Claim 3 and 49 have been recast in independent form. Claims 3 and 49 have been further amended by defining of the term "aliphatic linker". Support for these amendments is found in the definition of the aliphatic linker on page 7, line 24 through page 8, line 5 of the PCT application as published (WO 2004/092131), and the definitions of chemical terms on page 7, line 30, page 9, line 23, and page 10, line 4. Furthermore, to correct an obvious error, Claims 3 and 49 have been amended to delete the term "bond" from the definition of R32. Additionally, Claims 3 and 49 have been amended to delete proviso (u). Support for these amendments is found in the PCT application as published on page 19, line 10 through page 20, line 15. Finally, Claims 3 and 49 have been amended to more particularly define the value of the variable "E".

Claims 4, 5, 43, 50, 88, 92 and 140 have been amended to correct their dependencies in view of cancellation of Claims 1 and 47.

Claims 10, 22, 34, 55, 67, and 79 have been amended to more particularly define the value of the variable "E".

Applicants further state that the present amendment does not affect the restriction requirement set forth by the Examiner in the Official Action mailed from the USPTO on March 17, 2008. Namely, Applicants proposed to select the invention of a modified Group IV, should the Examiner accept the modification suggested by Applicants; alternatively, applicants elected a species of Example 1, page 133, to be grouped by the Examiner. In view of the present amendment, the following claims read on the selected invention or elected species:

Group IV (modified as suggested by Applicants): Claims 3-6, 19, 22, 31, 34, 43, 49-51, 64, 67, 88, 92, 94-96, and 140;

the species of Example 1: Claims 3-6, 19, 22, 49-51, 64, 67, 88, 92, 94-96, and 140.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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